

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 123  
By Johnson R

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Steekee Elementary School on its nomination as a Blue Ribbon School by the Department of Education of the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those educational institutions which, through the natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence of their faculty and staff members, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Steekee Elementary School is one such exceptional school which was recently named one of the six Tennessee nominees to the National Blue Ribbon School competition; and

WHEREAS, through a steadfast commitment of time and talent by faculty members and parents, the students of Steekee Elementary School have achieved outstanding academic success and have joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, over the past three years, Principal Betty Wright and Assistant Principal Melissa Shirk have led the faculty in implementing innovative programs and teaching strategies

in order to raise students' levels of achievement; such efforts have resulted in elevated test scores and other signs of significant progress; and

WHEREAS, to this end, teachers worked together to engage in team teaching, to develop intervention programs and accountability standards, to establish a Parent-Teacher Organization, and to initiate the school's participation in the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) tutoring program; and

WHEREAS, Steekee Elementary School also benefited from \$450,000 in grants and from a building program sponsored by Loudon County; and

WHEREAS, Steekee Elementary School's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for the Loudon County community; and

WHEREAS, the dedication to excellence demonstrated by all the fine individuals affiliated with Steekee Elementary School is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend and honor the faculty, staff, and students of Steekee Elementary School upon their nomination by the Department of Education of the State of Tennessee as a Blue Ribbon School, noting their remarkably rapid improvement in academic achievement, and extend to them our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.